

RM-10867

To: FCC Commissioners
Date: 3-30-2004
Subject: Restructuring

Dear Commissioners,

I have been reading the comments on this proposal and have decided to write a few. I have been a licensed No-Code Tech since 1997; I tried since then to learn it, off and on. I have now set my mind to learn code no matter what. There are some people who state that Technicians are too lazy to learn code or study it. They should sit in my house 2 times a day every day for 30 minutes and listen as I try to learn it. I have been trying now for 2 years to learn code and cannot learn it. I could sit here and make excuses about medical problems I have, but I wont. I know I will learn code one day if I keep trying. Yes it might take 5 years or longer, if this proposal passes then all that would mean is that in 5 years I could upgrade to an Extra class. The book part I can get with no problem I have always been able to read a book and understand it fairly quick. The code is what eludes me.

Several people have made comments that to upgrade Tech's into the same group with Generals is wrong. Then say that we have had no experience with HF. Well they are right on that point. My question to them is that when they upgraded to the HF Frequencies and started talking how much experience did they have and how did they get it. If they passed a Novice test with code years ago and got some HF privileges fine, what made them so qualified to talk HF then. Why do they feel that current Tech's cannot operate on HF in a professional manner?

If you are going to test for Morse Code then why not test for Phone, Rtty, Digital, or any other mode. Why only test for Morse Code. Do we also now start testing for computer literacy for those that wish to use digital? Do we now have to test on satellites also if we wish to do satellite communications? Morse code is not the choice for most any more. I have sat and listened to I don't know how many on digital talking about how they switched from Morse Code to Digital. These are HF operators that had to pass the code and they do not use it.

I have listened in on some of these HF people talk and some of them sound like they belong on channel 19 on the CB. There are some good operators out here that have their Tech license and would make great HF operators if given a chance. This proposal gives that to them. I support this proposal by the ARRL. I hope you will pass this proposal and let some people who deserve a chance have it. This is what is best to keep this hobby going. People are saying that Tech's cant do electronics. How do they know what I can and cant build? How does holding a General, Advanced or Extra license make them so much smarter than a Tech as far as building electronics?

Thank you for your time and consideration for this Proposal
Michael Davis
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